



Attorney Docket No. PD26119
Client Matter No. 68854-0061
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Bruning III, et al.

Serial No. 09/286,160

Filed: April 5, 1999

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
PROVIDING VERY LARGE VIRTUAL
STORAGE VOLUMES USING
REDUNDANT ARRAYS OF DISKS

Examiner: Kimberly N.
McLean

Art Unit: 2187

Confirmation No. 4617

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED NOVEMBER 21, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please consider the following remarks in response to the office communication mailed November 21, 2002.

REMARKS

Applicants traverse the rejections issued in the Office Action mailed November 21, 2002, and submit that each of the independent claims is patentably distinct from the cited references, and particularly that the independent claims cannot be rendered obvious by the combination of Massiglia, The RAID Book ("Massiglia") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,991,844 to Khosrowpour ('844 Patent).

No Motivation To Combine

The Office Action concedes, at paragraph 2, that Massiglia fails to disclose or suggest the local front-end controller generating mirror sets from the RAID sets received from the back end controller. The Office Action turns